This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

  1. (Presently amended) A computer implemented method for collecting medical product information, comprising:

  providing a web site having information about medical products;

  accepting on said web site ~~input~~ a submission indicative of an unmet need relating to the medical products from a plurality of users;

  categorizing the submission indicative of the unmet need according to a primary topic; and

  selecting an indicated unmet need for development of a medical product related to the selected unmet need where a predetermined number of the [unmet need] submissions have the same primary topic.

  2. (Original) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein the categorization is done performed by each said plurality of users electronically selecting a category.

  3. (Presently amended) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein the selecting of the unmet need for development of a medical product related to the selected unmet need ~~a predetermined number of unmet need submissions~~ comprises filtering the unmet need ~~needs~~ submissions.

  4. (Original) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

  providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that relates to product complaints.

  5. (previously presented) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that describes an unmet need and a solution to the unmet need.

6.   (Original) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 5 wherein an invention submission disclosure form is transmitted to the user that submitted the unmet need and the solution to the unmet need.

7.   (Original) The computer implemented method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

providing a computer implemented medical products information web site in conjunction with the unmet needs input such that users can input unmet needs while obtaining medical products information.

8.   (Original) A computer-readable medium bearing computer readable instructions for carrying out the steps recited in claim 1.

9.   (Currently mended) An apparatus for collecting medical product information, comprising:

a computer hosting a web site wherein the web site stores information about medical products, information about the medical products being electronically searchable and browseable;

a network connection whereby web pages are delivered to a remote computer and input is accepted from the remote computer, the network accepting an electronic submission indicative of an unmet need for the medical products whereby unmet needs related to the medical products may be determined for the development of a medical product related to the unmet need.

10.   (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 9 further comprising a medical products purchasing database whereby a user can purchase medical products in conjunction with the submission of an unmet need submission.

11.   (Presently withdrawn) A method of improving the operation of medical products, comprising:

retrieving a web page from a medical products server, the web page having input fields including a description field wherein an unmet need may be described, a category field whereby the medical condition to which the product need may be associated; and a submitter identification field whereby the identity of the submitter may be entered;

inputting the unmet need in the description field; and

transmitting the web page contents to a server whereby the contents may be categorized.

12.   (Previously presented) The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising entering account information before retrieving the web page.

13.   (Previously presented) The method as recited in claim 11 further comprising retrieving a web page comprising medical product information.

14.   (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium bearing computer readable instructions for carrying out the steps recited in claim 11.

15.   (Currently amended) A system for collecting medical unmet need information, comprising:

means for providing a web site having information about medical products;

means for accepting on said web site input a submission indicative of an unmet need relating to the medical products from a plurality of users;

means for categorizing the submission indicative of the unmet need according to a primary topic whereby an indicated unmet need for development of a medical product related to the categorized submission may be identified where a predetermined number of the [unmet need] submissions have the same primary topic.

16.   (Original) The system as recited in claim 15 wherein the categorization is done performed by each said plurality of users electronically selecting a category.

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 15 further comprising:

providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that relates to product

complaints.

19.   (Previously presented) The system as recited in claims 15 further comprising:

providing a gatekeeper such that the gatekeeper filters out input that describes an unmet

need and a solution to the unmet need.

20.   (Original) The system as recited in claim 19 wherein an invention submission

disclosure form is transmitted to the user that submitted the unmet need and the solution to the

unmet need.

21.   (Original) The system as recited in claim 15 further comprising:

providing a computer implemented medical products purchasing web site in conjunction

with the unmet needs input such that users can input unmet needs during a medical products

ordering process.